

### IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A lead assembly comprising:  
an outer insulative body;  
at least one conductor disposed within the outer insulative body, the at least one conductor extending from a conductor proximal end to a conductor distal end, and at least the conductor distal end is within the outer insulative body;  
an inner electrode coupled with the at least one conductor, the inner electrode defined in part by an inner electrode inner surface, an inner electrode outer surface and inner electrode end surfaces; and  
an outer electrode disposed over the inner electrode, the outer electrode ~~coupled~~ engaged with at least a portion of the inner electrode outer surface, the conductor distal end is coupled between the inner electrode outer surface and the outer electrode, the outer conductor and inner conductor isolate the conductor distal end from the outer insulative body, and the conductor proximal end is remote from the inner electrode and the outer electrode.
2. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the inner electrode outer surface includes a stepped portion having a ledge, and the conductor is disposed on the ledge.
3. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the inner electrode and the outer electrode are welded together.
4. (Canceled)
5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of the inner electrode outer surface or the outer electrode inner surface include conductor insulation disruption features.

7. (Currently Amended) A lead assembly comprising:

an outer insulative body;

at least one conductor disposed within the outer insulative body, the at least one conductor extending from a conductor proximal end to a conductor distal end;

an inner electrode coupled with the at least one conductor, the inner electrode defined in part by an inner electrode inner surface, an inner electrode outer surface and inner electrode end surfaces;

an outer electrode disposed over the inner electrode, the outer electrode having an outer surface, the conductor distal end is ~~disposed~~ annularly engaged between the inner electrode outer surface and the outer electrode, and the conductor proximal end extends away from the inner electrode and the outer electrode; and

means for electrically and mechanically coupling the outer electrode with the inner electrode without substantially damaging the outer surface of the outer electrode.

8. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein the means for electrically and mechanically coupling the outer electrode with the inner electrode includes a laser welded coupling formed between the inner electrode and the outer electrode.

9. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein the means for electrically and mechanically coupling the outer electrode with the inner electrode includes a magnetic swage coupling.

10. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein at least a portion of at least one of the inner electrode and the outer electrode are formed of shape memory material.

11. (Original) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein the conductor is disposed between the outer electrode and the inner electrode, and the outer electrode, the conductor, and the inner electrode are coupled together at substantially the same time.

12. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, further comprising means for disrupting conductor insulation disposed between the inner and outer electrode.

13-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, further comprising an adhesive disposed adjacent one or a combination of the outer insulative body, the conductor, the inner electrode, or the outer electrode.

27. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein an outer electrode outer surface includes a coated or chemically treated surface.

28. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 27, wherein the coated or treated surface includes IrOx or titanium oxide.

29. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the inner electrode and the conductor are welded together.

30. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 29, wherein the weld is visible.

31. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, further comprising an insulative tubing disposed over one or both of the conductor or the inner electrode.

32. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 3, wherein the inner electrode and the outer electrode are laser welded or resistance welded together.

33. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, further comprising an adhesive disposed adjacent one or a combination of the outer insulative body, the conductor, the inner electrode, or the outer electrode.

34. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, further comprising an insulative tubing disposed over at least a portion of the conductor and the inner electrode.

35. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein the means for electrically and mechanically coupling the outer electrode with the inner electrode includes a resistance welded coupling formed between the inner electrode and the outer electrode.

36. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, further comprising means for interlocking the outer electrode with the inner electrode, the means for interlocking disposed on one or both of an outer electrode inner surface or the inner electrode outer surface.

37. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein the outer electrode outer surface includes a chemically treated outer surface; and  
wherein the means for electrically and mechanically coupling the outer electrode with the inner electrode includes means for electrically and mechanically coupling the outer electrode with the inner electrode without substantially damaging the chemically treated outer surface of the outer electrode.

38. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 1, wherein the outer electrode includes a ring electrode.

39. (Previously Presented) The lead assembly as recited in claim 7, wherein the conductor includes a coil conductor.